

## PROCLAMATION **DENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**FEBRUARY 2010

WHEREAS, an estimated 40 to 50 percent of children younger than 5 will be affected by tooth decay; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 164 million work hours are lost by adults annually due to oral disease; and

WHEREAS, prevention - including proper oral hygiene techniques, good nutrition, fluoridated tap water and consistent professional care – is the most efficient and cost-effective way to achieve and maintain a healthy mouth and body; and

WHEREAS, the North Dakota Department of Health's Oral Health Program works to reduce disparities such as early childhood cavities and to improve access to care through early childhood prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, good oral health care prevents tooth decay and contributes to good health overall.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim February 2010, **DENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

ohn Høeven

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State

600 E Boulevard Ave. Bismarck, ND 58505-0001 Phone: 701.328.2200

> Fax: 701.328.2205 www.nd.gov